

News *fire information*

Bureau of Land Management AZ
Dixie National Forest

Utah, Forestry, Fire, and State Lands

Bureau of Land Management UT
Zion and Bryce National Parks
Bureau of Indian Affairs



For Immediate Release
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LaCee Bartholomew 435-865-4668
Scott Sticha 435-688-3303
David Eaker 435-772-7811

Color Country Fire Update – July 19

The National Interagency Fire Center moved to a Preparedness Level 5 today based on the current and expected fire activity throughout much of the west. This move to PL-5, the highest level, was prompted by large fire activity occurring in multiple geographic areas and a heavy commitment of crews, aircraft, and equipment to these incidents, along with a forecast for continued hot, dry, windy conditions. Locally, Color Country also remains at PL-5.

The National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning for southwestern Utah today for gusty winds and low humidity. A Red Flag Warning means that severe fire weather conditions currently exist or are expected to exist soon.

Fire crews remain very busy with initial attack on numerous fire starts. Following is further information on some of the larger fires in Color Country:

Dakota Hills Complex - Several fires, estimated at 8,320 acres, are burning in inaccessible terrain in the northeastern part of Zion National Park. One fire has moved east onto BLM and private lands. Kane County has issued a Mandatory Evacuation Order for the North Fork Road area, east of the park. The Zion back-country closure remains in effect. A Type 2 Incident Management Team will assume management of the complex. For more evacuation information call 435-644-2667.

Radio – Estimated at 6,436 acres; 15 miles SW of St. George. A Color Country Type 3 Incident Management Team will manage fire suppression efforts.

Paradise - Estimated at 100 acres; 20 miles west of Beryl

Road Canyon - Estimated at 50 acres; 30 miles south of St. George

Red Hollow - Estimated at 50 acres; 5 miles NW of Motoqua

Test Site - Estimated at 100 acres; 100% contained; 1 outbuilding burned

Other Information: Smoke from the larger fires will likely remain in the area, especially in the evening and early morning hours as it settles into the basins and canyons.

Please call the toll-free fire information line at **1-866-447-1283** or visit **www.utahfireinfo.gov** for more information on fire activity.

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